Lunar Volatile Dynamics and the Lunar Ice Cube Mission

CalTech/Jet Propulsion Laboratory: P.E. Clark (Science PI); Kris Angkasa;

Morehead State University, PI, Bus, Ground Communication, Mission Operations:

B. Malphrus (PI), B. Twiggs, Jeff Kruth, Kevin Brown, M. Coombs, E. Thomas, Graduate and Undergraduate Students;

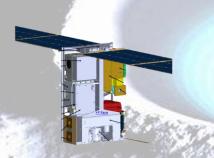
NASA/GSFC Payload: C. Brambora, T. Hurford, R. MacDowall, D. Reuter, W. Farrell, D.

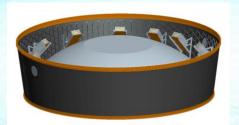
Patel, S. Banks, E. Mentzell, R. Manriquez;

NASA/GSFC Flight Dynamics: D. Folta;

Busek Propulsion: M. Tsay, J. Frongillo, J. Model;

Vermont Technical College Software: C. Brandon, P. Chapin, Graduate Students





EM1 Deployment System for the 'lucky 13'

Jet Propulsion Laboratory

California Institute of Technology

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Jet Propulsion Laboratory
California Institute of Technology
Pasadena, California

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Government sponsorship acknowledged

Current Status

Launch Delay of >1 year, spacecraft delivery delay of 9 months (now end of 2018).

CDR held in June 2017. Preparing for Delta CDR for Flight Software.

All critical / long-lead Flight hardware has been ordered.

FlatSat with non rad-hard subsystems and emulators is close to completion.

Trajectory, navigation, and thermal models along with communications links, mass, volume and power budgets evolving and achieving convergence.

Development and testing Data System beginning during this quarter.

A SPIE Optics paper on BIRCHES published. Paper on mission in progress.

BIRCHES and Lunarcubes: Building the First Deep Space Cubesat Broadband IR Spectrometer

Pamela Clark*a, Robert MacDowall^b, William Farrell^b, Cliff Brambora^b, Terry Hurford^b, Dennis Reuter^b, Eric Mentzell^b, Deepak Patel^b, Stuart Banks^b, David Folta^b, Noah Petro^b, Benjamin Malphrus^c, Kevin Brown^c, Carl Brandon^d, Peter Chapin^d

^aCalifornia Institute of Technology Jet Propulsion Laboratory, 4800 Oak Grove Drive, Pasadena, CA 91109; ^bNASA Goddard Space Flight Center, 8800 Greenbelt Road, Greenbelt, MD 20771; ^cMorehead State University, Space Science Center, Morehead, KY 40351; ^dVermont Technical College, Randolph Center, VT 05061

*Pamela.E.Clark@jpl.nasa.gov; phone 1 818 393-3262; fax 1 818 354-8887; jpl.nasa.gov

ABSTRACT

The Broadband InfraRed Compact High-resolution Exploration Spectrometer (BIRCHES), which will be described in detail here, is the compact broadband IR spectrometer of the Lunar Ice Cube mission. Lunar Ice Cube is one of 13 6U cubesats that will be deployed by EM1 in cislunar space, qualifying as lunarcubes. The LunarCube paradigm is a proposed approach for extending the affordable CubeSat standard to support access to deep space via cis-lunar/lunar missions. Because the lunar environment contains analogs of most solar system environments, the Moon is an ideal target for both testing critical deep space capabilities and understanding solar system formation and processes. Effectively, as developments are occurring in parallel, 13 prototype deep space cubesats are being flown for EM1. One useful outcome of this 'experiment' will be to determine to what extent it is possible to develop a lunarcube 'bus' with standardized interfaces to all subsystems using reasonable protocols for a variety of payloads. The lunar ice cube mission was developed as the test case in a GSFC R&D study to determine whether the cubesat paradigm could be applied to deep space, science requirements driven missions, and BIRCHES was its payload. Here, we present the design and describe the ongoing development, and testing, in the context of the challenges of using the cubesat paradigm to fly a broadband IR spectrometer in a 6U platform, including minimal funding and extensive need for leveraging existing assets and relationships on development, the foreshortened schedule for payload delivery on testing, and minimum bandwidth translating into simplified or canned operation.

Keywords: cubesat, broadband IR, lunarcubes, lunar orbiter, 6U, EM1

1. INSTRUMENT OVERVIEW

The versatile GSFC-developed payload BIRCHES (**Figure 1**), Broadband (1 to 4 micron) InfraRed Compact, Highresolution Exploration Spectrometer, is a miniaturized version of OVIRS (Osiris-Rex Visible InfraRed Spectrometer) on OSIRIS-Rex [1]. BIRCHES is a compact (1.5U, 2 kg, 12-25 W) point spectrometer with a compact cryocooled HgCdTe focal plane array for broadband measurements. The instrument includes an IRIS/AIM microcryocooler and controller [2]. The instrument will achieve sufficient SNR (>100) and spectral resolution (10 nm) through the use of a Linear Variable Filter to characterize and distinguish several spectral features associated with water in the 3-micron region, and potentially other volatiles already detected by LCROSS (H₂S, NH₃, CO₂, CH₄, OH, organics) and mineral bands. Typical footprint size will be 10 x 10 km, but will be somewhat smaller at the equator and larger toward the poles. We are also developing compact instrument electronics that can be easily reconfigured to support future instruments with Teledyne H1RG focal plane arrays [1] in 'imager' mode, when the communication downlink bandwidth becomes available. The instrument will enable the Lunar Ice Cube (**Figure 2**) mission science goals: determination of composition and distribution of volatiles in lunar regolith as a function of time of day, latitude, regolith age and composition, and thus enable understanding of current dynamics of lunar volatile sources, sinks, and processes, with implications for evolutionary origin of volatiles.

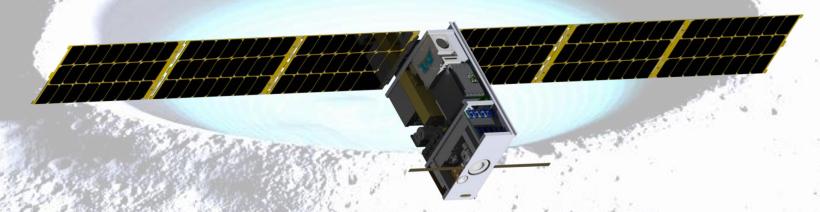
CubeSats and NanoSats for Remote Sensing, edited by Thomas S. Pagano, Proc. of SPIE Vol 9978, 99780C · © 2016 SPIE · CCC code: 0277-786X/16/\$18 · doi: 10.1117/12.2238332

Lunar Ice Cube Science Goals

Goals	Measurements	HEOMD SKG	Current
			Context
Primary: Determine distribution of	IR measurements	1-D Polar Resources 7:	More
forms and components of water as a	in the 1 to 4	Temporal Variability and	evidence
function of time of day as an isolated	micron region	Movement Dynamics of	for surface
variable. Provide inputs to constrain	associated with	Surface-Correlated OH	ice near
models for water origin, production,	volatiles,	and H2O deposits toward	south pole
and loss	especially focused	PSR retention	and solar
	on, though not		exposure
Secondary: Consider impact of latitude,	limited to, the 3	1-D Polar Resources 6:	related
slope, and slope orientation (typical	micron region at	Composition, Form and	effects
illumination and temperature range), as	= 10 nm spectral</td <td>Distribution of Polar</td> <td></td>	Distribution of Polar	
well as composition and age (additional	resolution.	Volatiles	
impact on space weaterhing) on			
distribution of forms and components	Utilize existing	1-C Regolith 2:	
of water to the extent possible	datasets from	Quality/quantity/distribut	
	other missions	ion/form of H species and	
Tertiary: Determine distribution of	(including LRO,	other volatiles in mare	
other volatiles (e.g., NH3, H2S, CO2,	Lunar Prospector,	and highlands regolith	
CH4) to extent possible	LCROSS, LADEE) to	(depending on the final	
	correlate with	inclination of the Lunar	
Tertiary: Consider impact of solar	other parameters	IceCube orbit)	
variations if opportunities.	listed under goals.	2.00	10.00

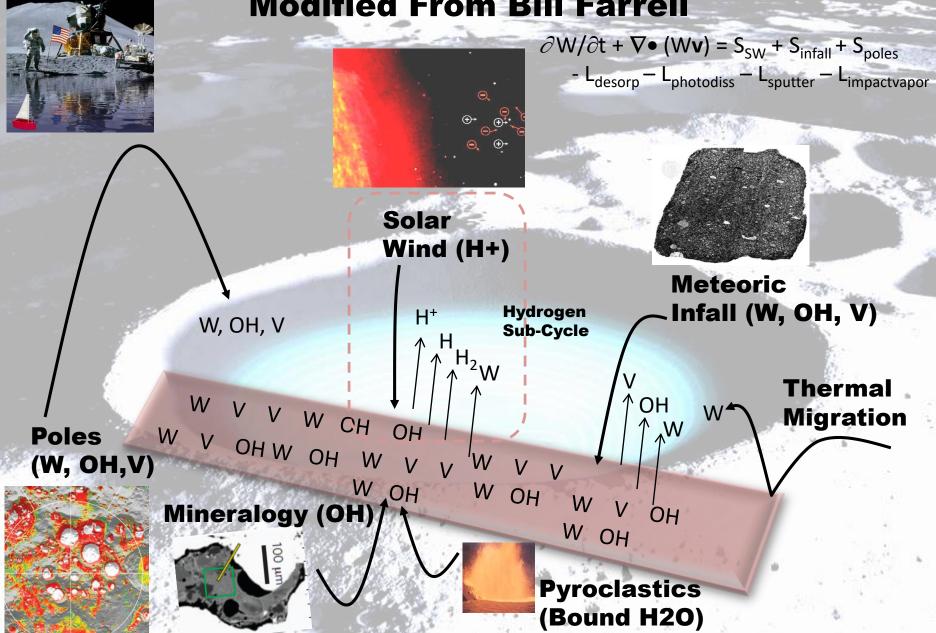
Technology Goals Demonstrate Enabling Technologies for Interplanetary Cubesats

- Busek BIT 3 High isp RF Ion Engine
- NASA GSFC BIRCHES Miniaturized IR Spectrometer characterize water and other volatiles with high spectral resolution (5 nm) and wavelength range (1 to 4 μm)
- Space Micro C&DH- Inexpensive Radiation-tolerant Subsystem
- JPL Iris v. 2.1 Ranging Transceiver
- BCT- XACT ADCS w/ Star Tracker and Reaction Wheels
- Custom Pumpkin- High Power (120W) CubeSat Solar Array



As of PDR, a de facto Science Mission as we are required to deliver science data to PDS archive.

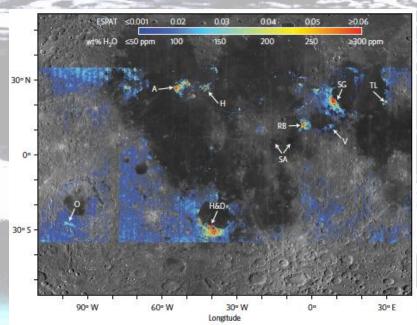
New View: A Lunar Water System Modified From Bill Farrell



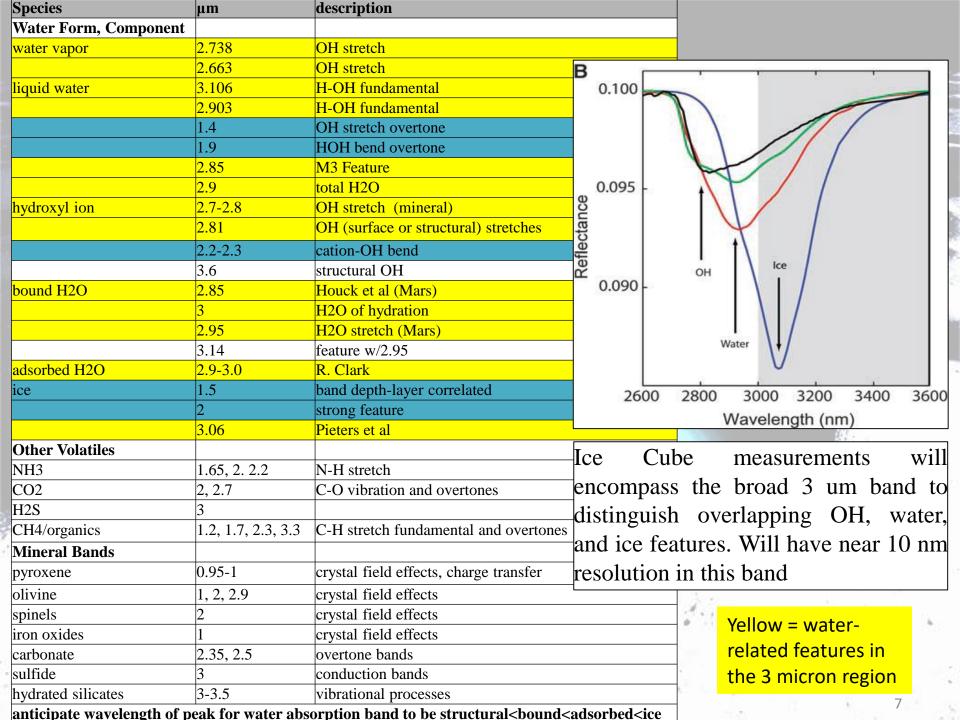
Bottom Line:

- Given BIRCHES measurements indicating variations in liquid water, ice, OH distribution across the lunar surface as function of time of day, ergo, temperature and illumination regime
- Given context of previous observations and ongoing studies
- we provide measurements that allow further examination of water, ice, and OH 'signatures' and implications for water-related processes including hydroxylation, water adsorption or desorption for:
 - Latitude and local magnetic anomalies
 - Local Slope orientation and shadowing
 - Composition, soil type, and maturity
 - Crater size and age
 - volcanic deposits
 - Transient (as opposed to systematic)
 effects such as impact or enhanced solar
 activity events

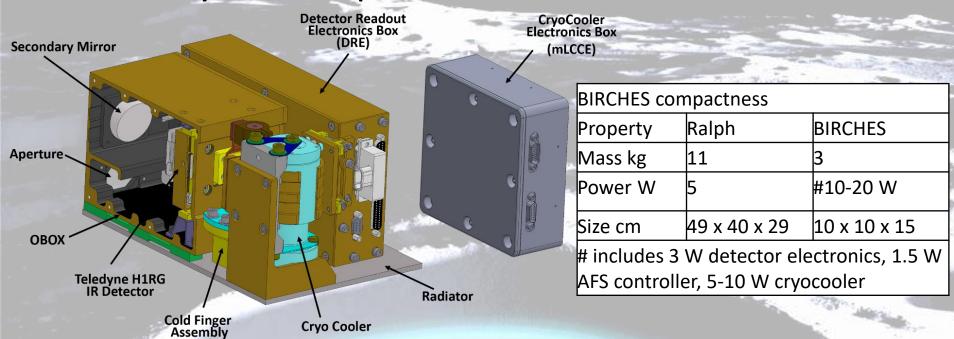
Example of Recent Study:



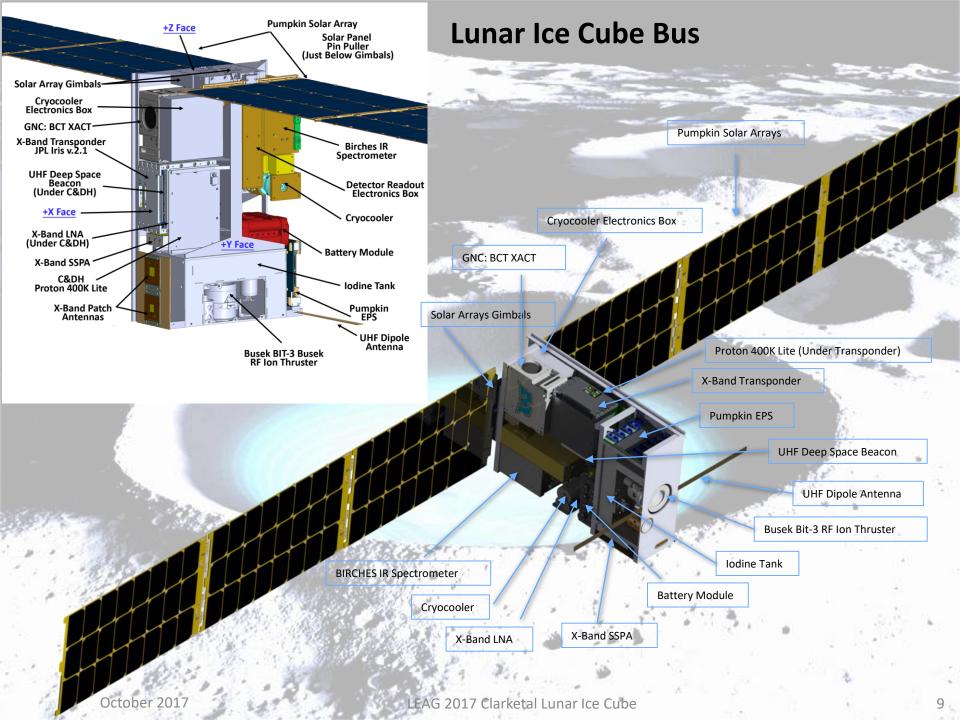
(Milliken and Li, 2017) Map of 2.85 u Effective Single Particle Absorption Thickness (ESPAT) derived from M3 at low lunar latitudes. Features apparently associated with pyroclastic deposits, lending credence to hypothesis of volatile-rich (hundreds ppm) sources in mantle. A aristarchus; O orientale, RB Rima Bode, SG Sulpicius Gallus, TL Taur-Littrow.



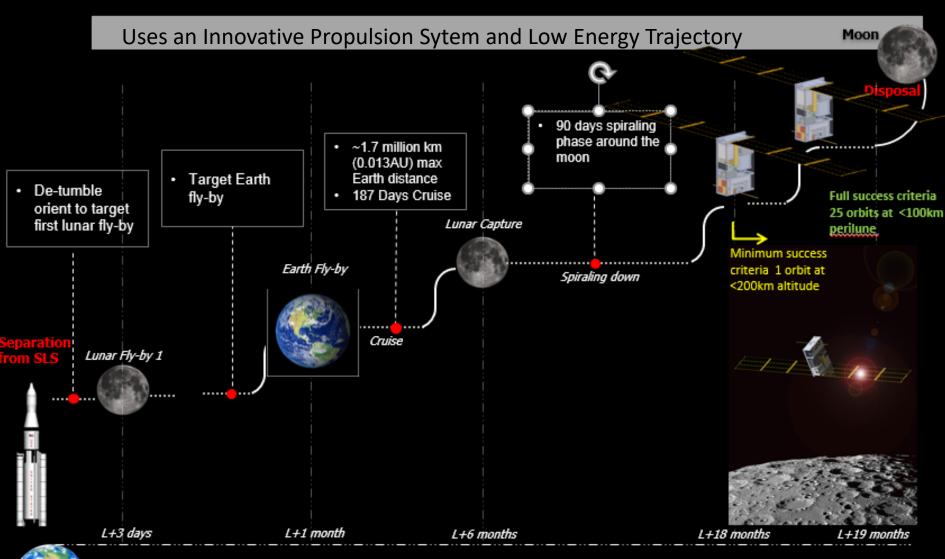
Subsystems Accomplishments - BIRCHES IR SPECTROMETER



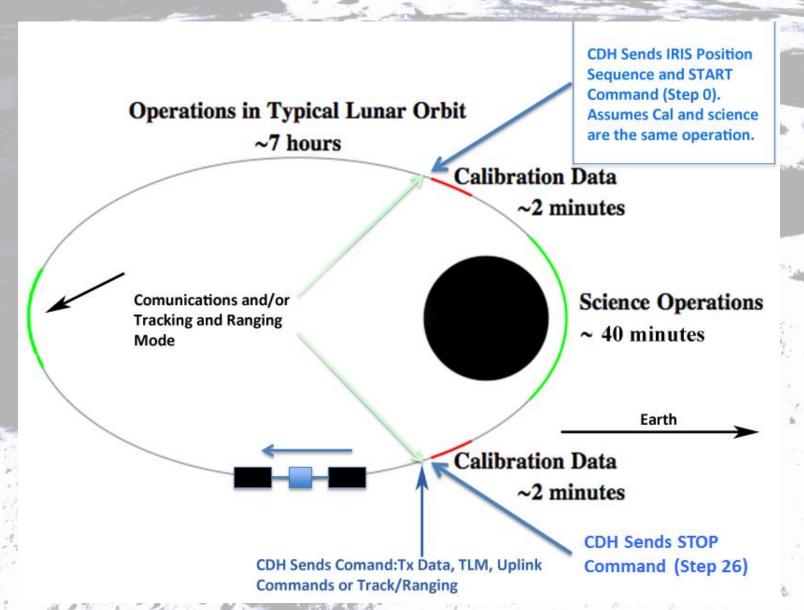
- Lightweighted Design Complete
- Specification, Interface Control Documents Complete
- Flight parts ordered or built
- ETU, Power Distribution Unit (PDU), and Analog Processing Unit (APU) Cards Assembled
- Additional APU card being made as emulator
- Delivery date: February 2017



Lunar IceCube ConOps



L-IC Science Orbit

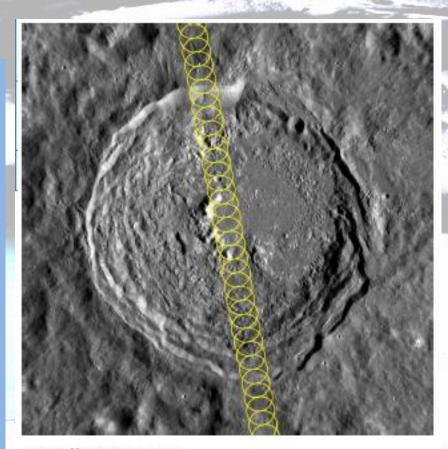


BIRCHES Observational Requirements

Adjustable Field Stop can adjust the FOV from 6 to 0.6 degrees to maintain footprint at 10 km for anticipated altitudes ranging from 10 to 1000 km.

Nominal Footprint 10 km in along track direction regardless of altitude, consecutive observations with overlapping coverage separated by a couple of kilometers (> Nyquist Sampling)

Nominal Footprint 10 km in cross track direction, with overlap of consecutive tracks at poles, separted by a couple of kilometers



Vavilov Crater: 100 km in diameter 1° S, 138° W

Lessons Learned

Thermal: A problem for 6U space cubesats with spectrometers. Possibly mitigated by advances in thermal design for next generation cubesats or by use of 12U.

BIRCHES: Still evolving strategy for stationkeeping, which requires reorienting spacecraft and turning on propulsion system, thus heating spacecraft. Optics box temperature control marginal. Mass expended to solve thermal problems (mostly) means we now have no margin.

COTS and Spares: Business as usual for cubesat 'maker' culture needs to be reinterpreted for a deep space mission with end user requirements (aerospace science and engineering culture). Make sure what you need exists and get that in writing.

BIRCHES: The reluctance to disclose internal workings of several COTS systems, as trade secrets, has created additional challenges. This should have been negotiated, with NDAs, at the beginning. Some of OVIRS spares have just been found.

Flight Software: Cubesats depend on it (adaptable, reconfigurable systems to minimize resources) even more than conventional spacecraft, and yet it is never adequately prioritized and budgeted.

BIRCHES: Budget now supplemented for GSFC Core Flight Executive operating system which has many of the drivers we need thanks to its low key use in many small missions.

Lessons Learned

Mission Operations: Cubesat operations can be demanding, but due to lack of budget, haven't typically funded a mission operations lead. Make sure you have one.

BIRCHES: the most operationally complex and challenging cubesat mission to date has finally received some additional support to rectify this situation.

Data Management: NASA is attempting to generate shared tools for the first group of deep space cubesats, but being tied in to an existing science data center is a must. PDS Science nodes have received some subsidies but not SPICE/NAIF.

BIRCHES: We were a tech demo, now we are required to deliver science data. We are still attempting to get additional support to deliver useful science data products to the PDS Geoscience node. We will need to leverage community support to deliver higher level data products.

Other EM1 Mission Complimentarity

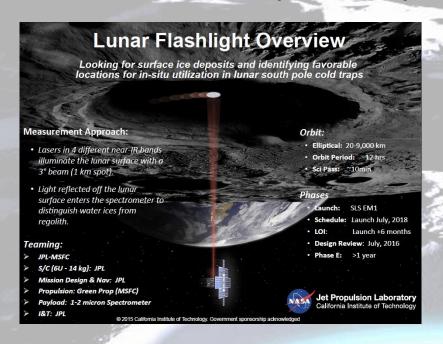




Figure 1: LunaH-Map cut-away showing spacecraft components and configuration. Inset image shows LunaH-Map deployed configuration.

Lunar Flashlight: Detect surface ice for PSRs polar region by measuring laser stimulated emission at several ice-associated lines.

LunaH Map: Detect ice in top layer (tens of centimeters) of regolith for PSRs polar region by measuring decrease in neutron flux (anti-correlated with protons) using neutron spectrometer.

Lunar IceCube: Determine water forms and components abundances as a function of time of day, latitude, and lunar regolith properties using broadband point spectrometer.

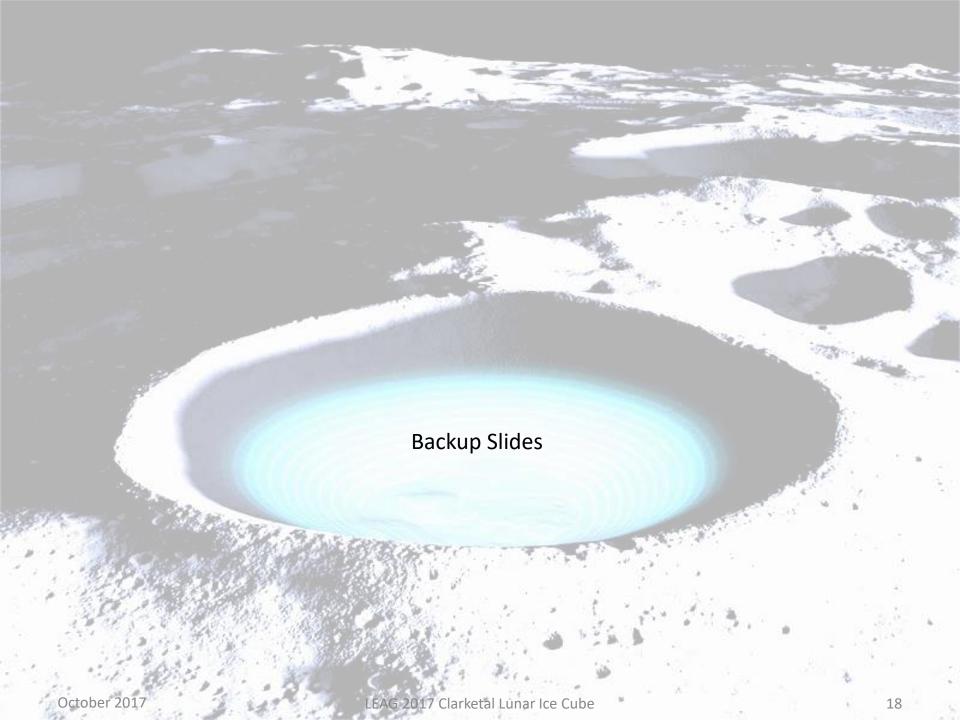
Conclusions

- BIRCHES will measure variations in liquid water, ice, OH distribution across the lunar surface as function of time of day (temperature and illumination) as well as providing basis for constraints for existing global/local volatile production/interaction models
- Lunar Ice Cube utilizes MSU cubesat bus with Busek propulsion and commercial subsystems modified for deep space, GSFC instrument and flight dynamics expertise with low energy manifolds to lunar capture, and JPL science PI and deep space communication expertise
- EM1 deployed Lunar Ice Cube lunar orbiter will deliver high priority measurements on lunar volatiles via a HEOMD NextSTEP mission selected to demonstrate technology for propulsion and compact volatile-detecting instrument capability
- Lunar Ice Cube, and the other EM1 cubesat missions measuring lunar volatiles, acting as a multi-platform cluster, are pioneering the use of the cubesat paradigm for deep space exploration.
- We are doing what cubesats are supposed to do: creating a tailored solution with a standard platform.

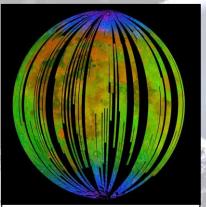
LunarCubes Are Back!!!!

CDW San Luis Obispo in April 2018
Your challenging science mission requirements needed

pamela.e.clark@jpl.nasa.gov

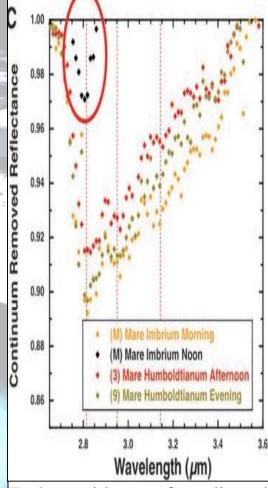


Lunar IceCube versus Previous Missions					
Mission	Finding	IceCube			
Cassini VIMS,	surface water detection, absorption vs	water & other volatiles,			
Deep Impact	tiime of day implying variable hydration	fully characterize 3 μm			
Chandrayaan	H2O and OH (<3 microns) veneer in	region as function of			
M3	mineralogical context nearside snapshot	several times of day for			
	at one lunation	same swaths over range			
LCROSS	ice, other volatile presence and profile	of latitudes w/ context			
	from impact in polar crater (greater	of regolith mineralogy			
	depth)	and maturity, radiation			
LP, LRO, LEND	H+ in first meter (LP, LEND) & at	and particle exposure,			
LAMP	surface (LAMP) inferred as ice (cold	for correlation w/			
DVNR	trap) abundance via correlation with	previous data			
LOLA	temperature (DIVINER), PSR and PFS				
LROC, LADEE	(LROC, LOLA), H exosphere (LADEE)				



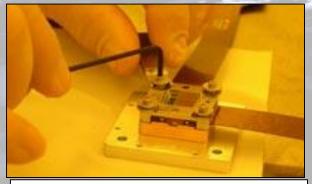
M3 'snapshot' lunar nearside indicating surface coating OH/H₂O (blue) near poles (Pieters et al, 2009)

Table B.2 IR measured volatile abundance in						
	LCROSS plume (Colaprete et al, 2010)					
Compound	Molecules cm ⁻²	Relative to H ₂ O(g)*				
H2O	5.1(1.4)E19	100%				
H2S	8.5(0.9)E18	16.75%				
NH3	3.1(1.5)E18	6.03%				
SO2	1.6(0.4)E18	3.19%				
C2H2	1.6(1.7)E18	3.12%				
CO2	1.1(1.0)E18	2.17%				
СН2ОН	7.8(4.2)E17	1.55%				
CH4	3.3(3.0)E17	0.65%				
OH	1.7(0.4)E16	0.03%				
*Abundance as described in text for fit in Fig 3C						

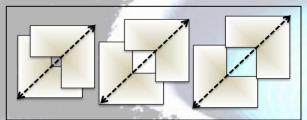


Early evidence for diurnal variation trend in OH absorption by Deep Impact (Sunshine et al. 2009) which will be geospatially linked by Lunar IceCube.

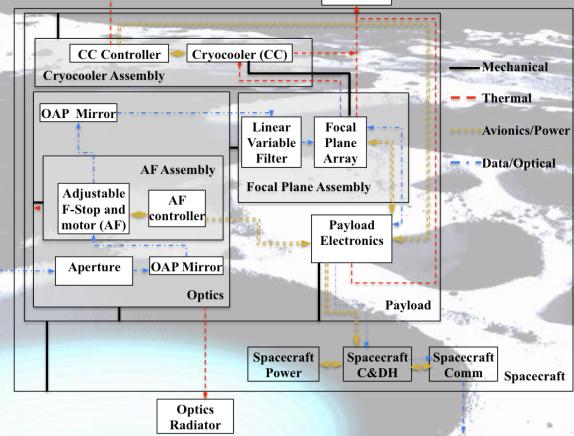
Spectrometer Schematic and Components



BIRCHES utilizes a compact Teledyne H1RG HgCdTe Focal Plane Array and JDSU linear variable filter leveraging OSIRIS REx OVIRS.



Adjustable Iris maintains footprint size at 10 km by varying FOV regardless of altitude



Radiator



BIRCHES Analog Processing Unit (APU) (top)



COTS AFRL developed AIM SX030 microcryocooler with cold finger to maintain detector at ≤115K and iris controller

Bus Components

Thermal Design: with minimal radiator for interior the small form factor for BIRCHES means that interior experiences temperatures well within 0 to 40oC. Optics box which has a separate radiator to keep it below 220K. Initial thermal modeling funded via GSFC IRAD work.

Propulsion: 2U Busek Gimbaled Iodine Ion Propulsion Drive (EP) with external e-source to offset charge build up. Models indicate no contamination problem.

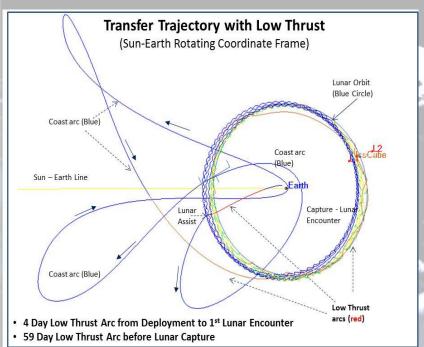
Communication, Tracking: X-band, JPL Iris Radio, dual X-band patch antennas. MSU has 21-m dish that is becoming part of the DSN. Anticipated data rate 128 kb/s

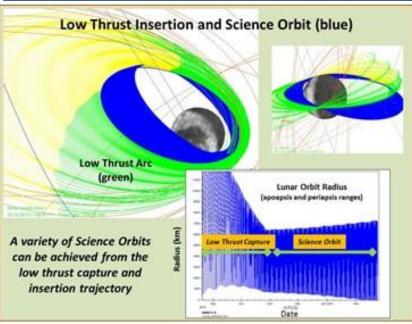
C&DH: Space Micro Proton 400K.

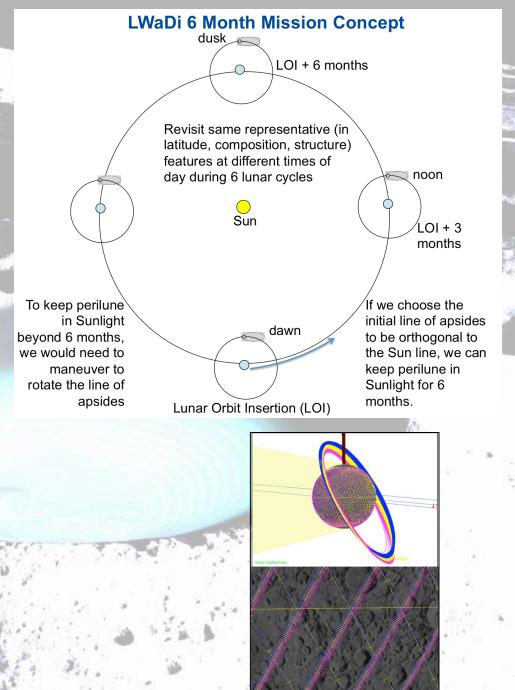
GNC/ACS: Modified Blue Canyon modified XACT. Multi-component (star trackers, IMU, RWA) packages. Stated Spacecraft pointing accuracy ±0.007 deg(1-sigma)

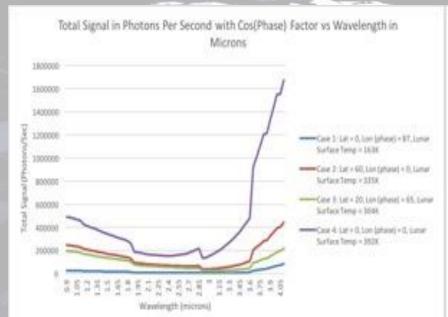
Power System: Pumpkin Custom Power System (Panels, Gimbals, EPS)

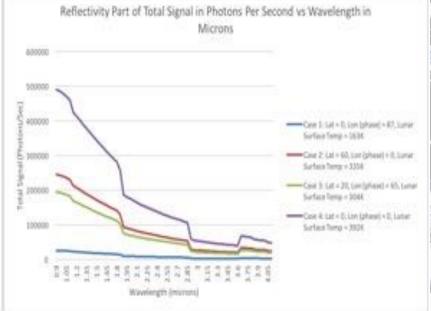












Case Lat	ToD Temp K	Reflectivity Total Signal	SNR	Band depth/PPM water					
			@ 3um photons/sec		0.1/1000	0.05/500	0.01/100		
1	0	87	163	3254	2760	52	276	138	27
2	60	0	335	39045	26400	162	2640	1320	264
3	20	65	304	24279	20963	145	2096	1480	210
4	0	0	395	150777	52800	230	5280	2640	528

More recent studies and Bottom Line:

- Given BIRCHES measurements indicating variations in liquid water, ice, OH distribution across the lunar surface as function of time of day, ergo, temperature and illumination regime
- Given context of previous observations and ongoing studies
- we can examine water, ice, and OH
 'signatures' and implications for water-related
 processes including hydroxylation, water
 adsorption or desorption for:
 - Latitude and local magnetic anomalies
 - Local Slope orientation and shadowing
 - Composition, soil type, and maturity
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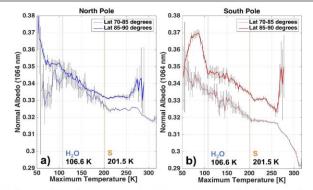


Fig. 5. Average 1064 mm reflectance as a function of maximum temperature (maximum temperature bin width = 31, for low slope (slope < 10°) areas free of mass wasting influence for areas within 5° of each pole, and between 5 and 20° from each pole, illustrating spatial heterogeneity in polar reflectance-temperature relationships, a) North polar data; b) South polar data. Curves plotted with 2\(\textit{zar}\) and are from each pole, illustrating spatial heterogeneity in polar data. Curves plotted with 2\(\textit{zar}\) and standard error of the mean. Volatility thresholds for elemental sulfur and water ice are included for comparison. Thresholds were derived by Zhang and Paize (2009) a sublimation rate of 1 mm/GV.

Evidence for surface ice at South Pole from LRO LA (Fisher et al 2017) and for magnetic anomaly and latitudinal impacts on space weather 'darkening' (Hemingway at el 2015)

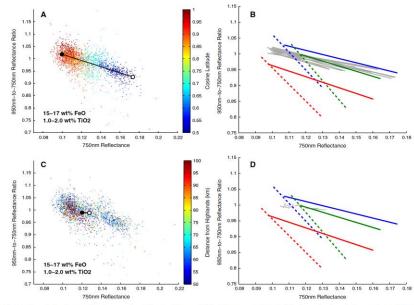


Fig. 15. Color variation of mare surfaces that are at least 50 km from the nearest highlands (compare with Fig. 4, which characterizes the entire lunar surface, and Fig. 10 km) characterizes to fine the mark). (A) Spectral characteristics of beixels sampled from regions with between 15 and 17 w/F 670 and between 1 and 2 w/F 170, brints are color-coded according to cosine latitude, as in Fig. 4, (B) Compilation of latitudinal trends across the 13 compositional bins compared to the swirl- and impact-related trends (red, green, and buse lines). (C) Spectral characteristics of the same pixels as in (A), except that points are color-coded according to distance from the highlands: blue points correspond to locations that are 50 km from the mare/highland boundary whereas red points correspond to locations that are 50 km from the mare/highland boundary whereas red points correspond to locations that are 100 km or more from the nearest highland (pixels within 50 km of the nearest highlands are excluded). The black trend line regressers a least squares best fit through data points with the end points indicating the color predicted by the best-fit line at locations 50 km (white circle) and 100 km (black circle) from the mare/highland boundary. (D) Compilation of the 13 highland-distance trend lines (grays) intes) compared to the swirt-and minpact-related trends (red, green, and blue lines). (C) for interpretation the references to color in this figure legend, the